



IMS Explorer

An accomplished journalist who also leads archaeological excursions to Mesoamerica and Egypt. A person eternally in support of the IMS, but who is she?

A monthly newsletter published by the **Institute of Maya Studies**



December 8, 2010 • Maya Long Count: 12.19.17.16.16 • 1 K'ib 9 Mak • G3

An affiliate of the Miami Science Museum

Update of Tunnel Exploration at Teotihuacan

The first robotic exploration of a pre-Hispanic structure in Mexico has revealed that a 2,000-year-old tunnel under the Temple of Quetzalcoatl at the famed site of Teotihuacan has a perfectly carved arch roof and appears stable enough to enter, according to archaeologists from Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH).

Archaeologists lowered the remote-controlled, camera-equipped vehicle into the 12-foot-wide (4-meter) corridor and sent it wheeling along to see if it was safe enough for researchers to enter. The one-foot (30-cm) wide robot is called "Tlaloque 1" after the Aztec rain god.

The grainy footage shot by the robot shows a narrow, open space left after the tunnel was intentionally closed off between 200 and 250 CE and filled with debris nearly to the roof.

Archaeologist Sergio Gómez says the footage shows the arched-roof tunnel is an example of sophisticated



The small wheeled vehicle named *Tlaloque 1*, with two video cameras attached, enters the tunnel opening under the Temple of Quetzalcoatl. See a four-minute video from INAH TV at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aev06ndAv2Y

work by the ancient inhabitants of Teotihuacan. "All of the passage, more than 100 meters long was excavated in the rock perfectly, and in some places you can even see the marks of the tools the people of Teotihuacan used to make it," said Gómez.

Well-worked blocks and a smoothly-arched ceiling show the tunnel is not natural, but rather a man-made structure. Researchers hope to clear the debris blocking the tunnel's mouth and enter the passageway in early December.

Robots have been used before in Egypt. In 2002, a robotic vehicle was used to discover a hidden door and chamber in the Great Pyramid. INAH says it appears to be the first robotic exploration in Mexico and probably in the Americas.

After excavating a vertical shaft that leads to the tunnel entrance, the mouth of the passageway was discovered in July (see Vol. 39, Issue 9, September *IMS Explorer*). Now researchers are hopeful of what may be located inside three separate side chambers that have been detected in the tunnel. We'll keep you posted!

Source: From articles released 11/11/2010 at www.inah.gob.mx and www.charlotteobserver.com. Submitted by Mike Rugerri.



The remote-controlled 4x4 traction vehicle passed its final inspection before being lowered into the tunnel. Both photos courtesy of Melitón Tapia/INAH.

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December 8, 8 pm:



Portrait of a Maya woman painted on a tortilla by Joe Bravo.

Plan to attend our ...
IMS Annual Business Meeting and Anniversary Fiesta!



Jim Reed,
Editor

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Personal Message from Marta Barber:

Saludos, Exploredores!

The time has come for me to step down as President of our 39-year-old organization. I will continue to be involved, but we are moving in new directions and, hopefully, someone with fresh ideas and an invigorating attitude will carry us forward to into the next era.

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IMS Explorer of the Month:

We've chosen our beloved Marta Barber this month. Thank you

Marta for your years of service and hard work on behalf of the IMS. Whether it's visiting a Maya site in the tropics or taking a camel ride in the desert, Marta has been there

●● or will take you there!

These past four years have brought me a lot of personal satisfaction as well as a few small grievances. We started by moving our library collection four times, ending where we first started: at the Miami Science Museum. After much negotiation, we were able to convince MSM to give us some space, which they did. By doing so, we saved more than \$1,200 for storage. Our location is not ideal, as it is of limited access to our members. At least, our books are safe.

We also took the giant step of modernizing our website. It has taken us endless hours of work and it is still not finished. But when it is, www.instituteofmayastudies.org will match this classy organization I've been privileged to serve.

We'll have collections of photographs of Maya sites, dating to the 1950s. We'll have copies of our monthly newsletter, *IMS Explorer*, dating back a few years. Best of all, we will have the lectures presented to our public available online. This way, all of our members – from Australia to Mexico – will be able to follow

Moctezuma's Baths Restored and Reopened

Moctezuma's Baths have been restored and are now open to the public at Chapultepec Park in Mexico City. The Baths were used by Mexica rulers for recreation, the breeding of exotic fish and for storage of water from underground springs at the site. Three large sculptures, including a large stone grasshopper created by the Mexica artists in honor of the name of the hill on which the Baths were built, and a statue of Tlaloc found at the site, have also been restored at the site for public viewing.

The work is part of a master plan by Mexican officials to rehabilitate and revitalize the Bosque de Chapultepec. The efforts began in 2004 and were carried out thanks to donations from the Ministry of Tourism, INAH, and the Federal District Government. The Bosque de Chapultepec is the oldest urban park in all of the Americas and is considered to be one of the most traditional places in the world.

Source : From an INAH report released 11/10/2010 at: www.inah.gob.mx. Submitted by Mike Ruggeri.



Marta Barber together with Merle Greene Robertson. Photo courtesy of Scott Allen.

the programs we present – unfailingly – every month.

For all of that, we need money. Please consider giving an IMS membership or newsletter subscription to your friends and family. If you are an *IMS Explorer*-only subscriber, please consider becoming a member. If you are a regular paying member, please consider giving a tax-deductible donation to the IMS.

I want to thank those members of Board of Directors who backed me up in all of these endeavors. I also want to thank those that didn't, because without debate, none of us can learn to move forward. I especially want to thank Jim Reed for his devotion to the *IMS Explorer*. The quality of our monthly publication is unequalled, thanks to Jim and his endless enthusiasm and resources. We at IMS thank you, Jim.

So, hasta la vista! Please feel free to write to me at msmiami@yahoo.com.
Marta Barber



Visitors can walk around the bath area and see informative displays including a sculpture of Tlaloc, the Aztec god of rain.



A carved stone grasshopper found at the site is also displayed. Photos: Melitón Tapia, INAH.

Rulership and Rhetoric: Why is Astronomy Embedded in the 2012 Monument from Tortuguero?

by John Major Jenkins

Tortuguero Monument 6 is the subject of increasing interest to epigraphers. The T-shape of the monument is unusual and the lengthy text of some 176 glyphs is a window into the life and career of the 7th-century king named Balam Ajaw (Lord Jaguar), a contemporary of Janaab' Pakal from nearby Palenque. Most intriguingly, Monument 6 contains a reference to the impending 13th-Bak'tun period ending, which according to the 584283 correlation falls on December 21, 2012, a solstice.

This inscription thus promises to tell us something about how the Maya were thinking about the famous 2012 date, a greatly misunderstood topic. Until recently, the 2012 date was not recognized by scholars as a valid artifact of ancient Maya thought. There are numerous examples of commentators dismissing 2012, an unfortunate reflex which seems to have more to do with the marketplace mess than with acknowledging, let alone exploring, the evidence for how 2012 was utilized and thought about by the ancient Maya.

The importance of Izapa

In my work, in the early 1990s, on the astronomical properties of the Long Count and the evidence for 2012 being an intentional artifact of Maya astronomy, I focused on the pre-Classic content which gave rise to the Long Count system. The archaeoastronomy and iconography at the site of Izapa proved to be a useful source of information for the ideology and astronomical knowledge that was present during the Long Count's formulation.

Within this context, the fact that the ballcourt at Izapa is aligned with the December solstice sunrise is an important interpretive key. I argued for and documented an interdisciplinary reconstruction of how a far future period-ending was recognized and thought about at Izapa, and I elaborated the ideological and astronomical aspects of an early Maya cosmological paradigm connected to the 2012 period ending.

The evidence at Izapa was pre-hieroglyphic and therefore not

subject to epigraphic treatment. The iconography and astronomical orientations, however, provided sufficiently cohesive interdependent statements to reconstruct the concepts that were important to the Izapans.

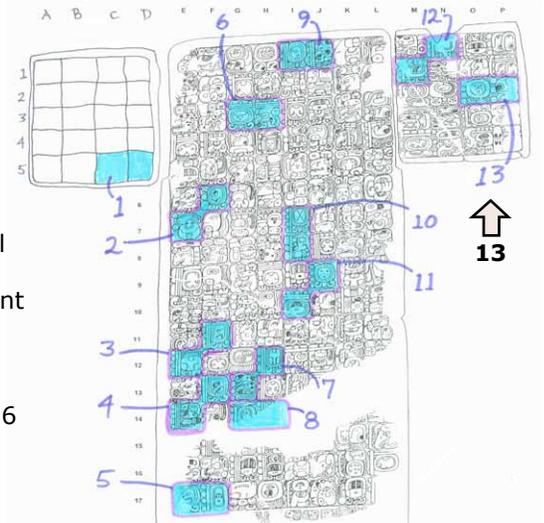
Now, Tortuguero Monument 6 provides us with a specific date reference in an inscription from the Classic Period, seven hundred years after Izapa's heyday, and we can analyze this monument for ideological and astronomical information regarding how the Maya at Tortuguero thought about 2012. It actually provides a nice test for my earlier work.

Several scholars show interest

Tortuguero Monument 6 and the 13th-Bak'tun period-ending reference it contains have been known to specialists for many years. It was noted, for example, by Linda Schele in her *Maya Glyphs: The Verbs* (1982). However, the first in-depth treatment of the text with a special focus on the meaning of the 2012 date and passage appeared only very recently, with the online release in August 2010 (on the Wayeb website) of a study by Sven Gronemeyer and Barbara MacLeod.

Several months before this, we had Mark Van Stone's self-published book which covered some of the developments in deciphering the Monument 6 text. Before this, in late 2008, we had a few comments by Stephen Houston on his glyph blog, and before that, in April 2006 on the Aztlan e-list, we had David Stuart's rough translation of the sixteen glyph blocks most closely associated with the 2012 date. Other contributions to understanding the text are discussed in my book *The 2012 Story* (2009).

Because of two partially eroded glyph-blocks in the 2012 passage, several Maya scholars were quick to conclude that the case was left wide open as to how 2012 was conceived. A reassessment of old photographs and a more rigorous approach to deciphering the inscription has resulted in Gronemeyer and MacLeod's more definitive reading. The findings are interesting and highlight one



Tortuguero Monument 6 contains the now-famous 2012 date, along with twelve other dates. Note the 2012 date at #13.

important fact, an idea that I took to heart 25 years ago when I started studying Maya culture and cosmology, and it is this: the Maya thought something about 2012. I am not going to recapitulate the arguments and findings of Gronemeyer and MacLeod here, as they require more space and can be read on the Wayeb website. Instead, I want to introduce another way of looking at the Tortuguero inscription which reveals much about how the 2012 date was thought about by the Maya. And this involves astronomy.

What about astronomy?

The epigraphic treatment of the text has left out astronomical considerations which actually expand and clarify our understanding of the purpose and function of the monument, and the narrative of Lord Jaguar's life. Because of the dearth of commentary on the astronomical contents of Monument 6, the title of my article may seem perplexing. *Astronomy in Monument 6?*

The community of researchers first needs to recognize that astronomical relationships and patterns are indeed embedded into the dates on Monument 6 (something that in itself is easy to demonstrate). Such a circumstance therefore provides an important interpretative database for understanding what the Maya elite were trying to convey.

Tortuguero Monument 6 contains the 2012 date, and twelve other dates. They almost all relate in one way or another to the life of Lord Jaguar. Several involve ancestor rites that ritually set the stage for

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Program Recap for 2010 • Our 39th Year for the IMS!

Offering educative public programs about Maya and pre-Columbian studies.

January 13:

"Monster Mouths and Towers of Deception" with Rick Slazyk

January 20: IMS Video Presentation:

"EDGEWALKER: A Conversation with Linda Schele"

February 10:

"Maya Lithics Hands-On"
with Joaquín J. Rodríguez III, PE, SECB

February 17:

"An Overview of Psychoactive Plant Use by Pre-Columbian Andean Cultures"
with Dr. Constantino Manuel Torres

March 10:

"Ancient Painters, Potters, and Sculptors and Their Legacy to Modern Art"
with Marta Barber

March 17:

"Dancing with Tz'jolaj: Transcending Cultural Boundaries of the K'iché Maya World"
with Dr. Andrea Mantell Seidel

April 14:

"Trees of the Maya at the UM Gifford Arboretum"
with John Cozza, Ph.D.

April 21:

"The Road to Naachtun: A Regional Perspective on the Tikal-Calakmul Rivalry" with Debra S. Walker, Ph.D.

May 12:

"Food for the Gods: Aztec Sacrifice"
with Dr. Batia Cohen

May 26:

"Passageways to the Underworld: Ritual Use of Caves and Cenotes in Pre-Hispanic Yucatán"
with Dr. Gabrielle Vail

June 9:

"Cantona: One of the Largest and Least-Visited Sites in Mexico"
with Ray Stewart

June 16:

"Weeds and Seeds: The History of Dining in Florida"
with Michelle Williams, Ph.D., RPA

July 14:

"The Maya Sites of Altun Ha (in Belize) and Kohunlich (in Southern Quintana Roo, Mexico)"
with Larry S. Marks

July 21:

"The Maya Ritual Burner Cycle"
with Victoria R. Bricker, Ph.D.

August 11:

"Indigenous Writing in the Americas: History, Ritual, Maps and Myths"
with Arthur Dunkelman

August 18:

"1,500 Years of Maya Literature: From Classic Texts to Chol Folktales"
with Nick Hopkins, Ph.D.

September 8:

"Inka Coya – the Queen"
with Carol Damian, Ph.D.

September 15:

"An Overview of IMS Research in Mesoamerica"
with Joaquín J. Rodríguez III, PE, SECB

October 13:

"Archaeology on Public Lands in Florida"
with Juan L. Riera, Ph.D.

October 20:

"Venus in the Art and Calendars of Ancient Mexico"
with Susan Milbrath, Ph.D.

November 10:

"Sites Seen in the Yucatán Peninsula"
with Claudia Hernández and Alex Morán

November 17:

"Cortés Meets Moctezuma: As Related by Bernal Díaz del Castillo" in his book *The True History of the Conquest of New Spain* with Robert Dawson

Rulership and Rhetoric:

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his rule. The astronomical approach to the text was worked out between Maya epigrapher Michael Grofe and myself, noting patterns of relationship and parallels between the dates in the text. The findings are of great interest because they support the idea that the meaning the ancient Maya ascribed to 12/21/2012 embodies an astronomical component, one that was meaningful for Lord Jaguar such that he exploited it in his rhetoric of power.

New discoveries surface

In the wake of the Tulane conference that took place in February of 2009, which used 2012 as a theme, Maya scholar Michael Grofe made several key discoveries in the astronomy of Tortuguero Monument 6. His approach was identical to a strategy I employed in an essay I wrote for the Institute of Maya Studies newsletter in 2000, in which I noted that some Long Count dates, such as 9.14.0.0.0 on Copan Stela C and elsewhere, indicated when the sun was positioned at the Crossroads formed by the Milky Way and the ecliptic (in Sagittarius). This sidereal "Crossroads" location also indicates the southern terminus of the Dark Rift in the Milky Way.

This compelling astronomical alignment was reiterated by the iconography of Copan Stela C which depicts 18 Rabbit (a solar lord) wearing caiman breaches (the caiman's maw symbolize the Dark Rift in the Milky Way). We thus have an identifiable "like-in-kind" alignment that is conceptually evocative of the alignment that takes place on 12/21/2012. It's true: On 13.0.0.0.0 in 2012, the sun will be positioned right at the Milky Way/ecliptic Crossroads. But in 2012, the alignment happens on the solstice, which identifies it as occurring in a rare era of the precession of the equinoxes. These things have been defined and discussed in my books and articles going back to 1994.

So, it turns out that other dates in the Maya inscriptions also highlight dates when the sun is positioned at the same sidereal location. This line of investigation is meaningful because the sun will also be positioned at this sidereal location – the "Crossroads" of Maya Creation Mythology – on 12/21/2012. As Grofe discovered on Tortuguero Monument 6, four of the thirteen dates designate this alignment, one of which was Lord Jaguar's birth date in 612 CE. (There is a range of 5-9 days for his birthday, due to an eroded Distance Number, but the range provides a reasonable allowance

for the alignment, and the consequent parallel to the 2012 date would still have been conceptually meaningful to the Maya.)

The first publication of some of these findings appeared in Chapter 7 of my book *The 2012 Story* (released in October 2009). Unfortunately, other academic sources of commentary on 2012, such as Anthony Aveni's book *2012: The End of Time* (10/2009) and E. C. Krupp's article in *Sky & Telescope* (11/2009) concluded without further investigation that Monument 6 was not a useful source for understanding 2012 (because of those two eroded glyphs). Reviews of these pieces can be found in the October update at <http://Update2012.com>.

An irrational superstorm swirled around the 2012 topic when the Hollywood disaster movie came out in November 2009. My efforts to inform the media vampires that "there is no evidence that the ancient Maya predicted the end of the world in 2012" (which I've been repeating for twenty years) went under-reported, despite doing over sixty TV, radio, print, online, and documentary interviews in a three-week period. In my interview with *ABC Nightline*, at their New York studios in early August of 2009, I did manage to explain the astronomical importance of Tortuguero Monument 6. To my utter dismay, however, when the piece appeared several weeks later, they cut my explanations and merely showed me, without sound, pointing to the diagram of Monument 6. That could have been a breakthrough of something important into public awareness on a large scale, but alas, the mainstream media has been consistently and reliably unhelpful in conveying accurate information about 2012. Instead, *ABC Nightline* gave much more time to a New Age crystal mystic at the site of Palenque. This is, needless to say, the media's way of reinforcing the prejudice, shared by many professional Maya scholars, that 2012 is just a laughable manifestation of irrational millenarianism.

Critics can only criticize

During this time, critics of my work were united by the strange circumstance that they all failed to actually address the evidence and arguments that I have brought to bear on my thesis. For example, the Izapan ballcourt's alignment to the solstice sunrise, along with the associated iconography of the carved monuments in the ballcourt (which I was the first to publish on, in 1995) is always conveniently ignored. Often, a factually inaccurate summary of my work is followed by easy torching. Full responses to critics can be found at

<http://Update2012.com>. I am a full time author, researcher, and conference presenter, and the promotion phase of a book's release is of vital importance. By 2009, there were new facts to help us understand what the ancient Maya thought about 2012, and they needed a fair hearing. But it was like whispering into a hurricane. I was glad to return home in late November of 2009, after an exhausting West Coast tour, and renew my study of the Tortuguero inscriptions. Happily, more discoveries awaited me.

Sharing my insights at SAA

In mid-2009 I was invited by Dr. Robert Benfer to present the astronomical content of the Tortuguero monument at the 75th Society for American Archaeology conference in St Louis. My presentation took place on April 15, 2010. I was able to share new findings that had unfolded in December 2009. This is the second time the astronomy of Tortuguero Monument 6 was published, this time in an "official" by-invitation-only academic conference. The presentation was a read paper with twelve slides, and the PDF of my presentation is available upon request. More evidence from the monument made it even clearer that Lord Jaguar was aware of the sun's position on 12/21/2012 and saw it as a parallel to his own birth and other key events in his life.

Piecing it all together

But why? Why use a personal connection to a great period ending in the Long Count as a strategy for amplifying ones political power and divine status as king? Simple: that's what Maya kings did. That's what Janaab' Pakal did in exploiting the 20th-Bak'tun period ending in 4772 CE; that's what K'ak Tiliw of Quirigua did in relating himself to the astronomical three-hearthstone event (in 3114 BCE); that's what 18 Rabbit of Copan did in connecting himself to deep time mythic rituals and a future 10th-Bak'tun period ending. What Lord Jaguar did with the 13th-Bak'tun period ending in 2012 was simply par for the course in the Maya kingship playbook: they were interested in exploiting real or asserted connections with the calendrically-defined Creation Mythos. Namely, using period endings, preferably big ones. Thus, 12/21/2012 was of interest to Lord Jaguar because of the astronomical parallel his birthday had to it. What this means, however, is that he or at least his political rhetoricians must have been aware that the sun, on the solstice day of 12/21/2012, would be aligned with the center of the Crossroads formed

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2010 was a year of fire ceremonies for editor Jim Reed. "We were able to arrange rituals at seven different Maya sites in three countries. I feel very humble and I learned so much ... Mal ti ox." JR

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Institute of Maya Studies' Annual Affair!

You're Invited!

Fiesta • Fellowship • Food • Fun • Free

Plan to Attend!

Yearly IMS Business Meeting and Anniversary Fiesta!

December 8, 2010 • 8 pm • It's free for all IMS members

Officially dubbed the Annual Members Meeting, members seldom think of it as that. Think food, fellowship and fun. Think bargain books and other desirable items for sale. Think Happy Birthday to the IMS!

The IMS has been together for 39 years!



As established in the bylaws, the event takes place on the second Wednesday of December, in this case **December 8**. We combine our anniversary fiesta with a short business meeting, a few short committee reports and the announcement of the new board members elected that evening to the 2011 Board of Directors.

If you haven't mailed in your ballot yet, you can even bring it to the event.

Also, there's our Book Sale – bring some, buy some!



The Earth, the Moon and the Atom: original artwork by Pablo Collado. Check out: www.pablocollado.com

Wear your favorite Maya get-up! Bring some "finger food", wine or tequila to share!

The Institute of Maya Studies' Annual Affair • Wednesday, **December 8** • Have a drink and a piece of cake too!
8-9:30 PM • Miami Science Museum • 3280 South Miami Avenue, across from Vizcaya
Inquire about IMS Membership benefits • Maya Hotline: 305-235-1192 • <http://instituteofmayastudies.org>

Rulership and Rhetoric:

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by the Milky Way and the ecliptic, at the southern terminus of the Dark Rift in the Milky Way.

These are exciting times in Maya studies, as we are beginning to see how the astronomy associated with dates in the inscriptions can help us understand that the Maya were tracking such things as the tropical year, the sidereal year, and the precession of the equinoxes. Michael

Grofe's PhD dissertation of 2007 demonstrating this knowledge in the Serpent Series of the Dresden Codex, and Barbara MacLeod's work on the 3-11 Pik formula also argue for accurate knowledge of the precession of the equinoxes during the Classic Period. Tortuguero Monument 6 is an exceptional monument for many reasons. Combined with an analysis of other monuments and texts from Tortuguero, we can see that something extraordinary was underway during Lord Jaguar's rule (644 to 679 CE).

I plan to write about this in two future publications, and will be presenting the latest findings at the Institute of Maya Studies on January 19, 2011. The focus will be on how the astronomy of the thirteen dates on Tortuguero Monument 6 help us understand how December 21, 2012 was thought about by the ancient Maya.

January 19, 8 pm:

"Why is Astronomy Embedded in Tortuguero Monument 6"

with John Major Jenkins

Help the IMS by Going Green! Indicate that you want the color version of the IMS Explorer sent by e-mail!

Institute of Maya Studies

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Coming up next month:



much of southwestern Florida. South Floridians: Get to know your local indigenous history.

Maya Spirituality – A Tale of Survival: Since the time of the invasion of the American continents, the traditional culture, practices and spirituality of its Native inhabitants have been under constant threat. The effects of development brought about by expanding globalization have had devastating consequences on the traditional culture of the Maya people. An article by Adam Rubel is shared combined with images of recent ceremonies in the Mayalands by George Fery and editor Jim Reed.



Upcoming Events at the IMS:

December 1, 8 pm: **IMS Board Meeting**
All members are invited to attend.

December 8, 8 pm: *IMS Annual Affair*
"IMS Annual Business Meeting and Anniversary Fiesta" – Join with us as we celebrate 39 years together! We're planning food, fellowship and fun. There will be a book sale – bring some, buy some – and share some cake and a drink or two. The fiesta follows our official annual business meeting that includes a few short reports on the state of the organization, a tally of the votes, and official announcement of the newly elected IMS Board members for 2011. It's free for all members, please attend!

January 12, 8 pm: *IMS Explorer Session*
"Maya Sites in the Río Pasión and Petén Area" – Mostly active during the Late Classic (500-800 CE), these cities developed a style of their own known as the Pasión-Petexbatun, with our beloved Marta Barber.

January 19, 8 pm: *IMS Presentation*
"Why is Astronomy Embedded in Tortuguero Monument 6" – with John Major Jenkins. See article on page 3.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

Through January 2, 2011: *Exhibition*
"Rainmaker Kings: Masterpieces from Ancient Mexico" – An exhibition of 18 sculptural masterpieces from Mexico's ancient civilizations that flourished between 900 BCE and 1521 CE at the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL. Get additional info at: www.artic.edu/aic/exhibitions/exhibition/Ballplayers

Through January 3: *Exhibition*
"Painted Metaphors: Pottery and Politics of the Ancient Maya" – An exhibit of 145 pieces on loan from the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. At the Frank H. McClung Museum, University of Tennessee. More info at: <http://mcclungmuseum.utk.edu/>

February 11-13: *Symposium*
"The Rise of Maya Civilization" – The 8th Annual Tulane Maya Symposium & Workshop to be held at Tulane University and the New Orleans Museum of Art. On behalf of the The Middle American Research Institute and The Stone Center for Latin American Studies. For details see: <http://mari.tulane.edu/TMS>

March 23-27:
2011 Maya Meetings
"2012: Time and Prophecy in the Mesoamerican World" – Workshops at San Jacinto Conference Center and the Symposium at Blanton Museum Auditorium at UT-Austin. Confirmed speakers: Alfredo López Austin, Anthony Aveni, John Hoopes, Kathryn Reese-Taylor, David Stuart, Karl Taube, and Barbara Tedlock. Registration for the symposium began October 1. For more information visit: www.utmaya.org

Ongoing: *Museum Exhibition*
"Art of the Ancient Americas" – Consisting of more than 1,900 pieces from Mesoamerica, Central America, and the Andes. At the Michael C. Carlos Museum of Emory University, Atlanta, GA. For more details visit: <http://carlos.emory.edu/COLLECTION/AMERICAS>

Ongoing: *Museum Exhibition*
"Aztec to Zapotec: Selections from the Ancient Americas Collection" – at the Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL. Get more info at: www.omart.org



Editor's Corner: Further reading and a chance to respond ...

The Maya Exploration Center has a great website with an interesting electronic newsletter that you can subscribe to as well as an area where they share current scholarly articles.

They have made available the paper that John Major Jenkin's delivered at this year's SAA meetings that he makes reference to in his article in this issue. Check it out, then you are invited to discuss its merits on the Maya Exploration Center's FaceBook page:

Astronomy in the Tortuguero Inscriptions (1.2 MB PDF) by John Major Jenkins
This paper is available at: http://www.mayaexploration.org/research_pubs.php

